

## WEATHER OF THE MONTH.

## WEATHER OF NORTH AMERICA AND ADJACENT OCEANS.

## GENERAL CONDITIONS.

By A. J. HENRY, Meteorologist.

The ocean highs which become firmly established in the Northern Hemisphere in July begin to contract in area and the barometric level begins to sink in August as continental pressures increase somewhat. The continental low pressure of Asia increases 0.05 to 0.10 inches, and in general the annual swing in the pressure from summer to winter begins. The wind directions in August are not so clearly influenced by the pressure distribution as in the preceding month.

## WEATHER OF THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN.

By F. G. TINGLEY.

Reports at hand indicate that no less than five distinct disturbances were experienced in Asiatic waters during the month of August. It is impossible at this writing, with the somewhat meager information available, to give accurately the tracks of these storms or to say whether all were well-developed typhoons. Complete accounts will appear later in the Monthly Bulletin of the Philippine Weather Bureau.

The first of these tropical storms made its appearance at the end of July and, on August 1, according to press reports, interrupted telegraphic communications between China, Japan, and the Philippines. It seems to have reached the Sea of Japan, in diminished form, by the 4th.

The second disturbance, which was probably of moderate intensity, caused strong southwest to west winds on the steamer route between Manila and Hongkong during the 6th to 8th.

During the period from the 12th to 15th strong winds, which apparently backed from northeast to west, were experienced in the Eastern Sea.

From the 18th to the 22d a disturbance traveled from a position east of Luzon to the westward, across the China Sea. This typhoon was followed almost immediately by another, which appeared in about the same region but which pursued a different course traveling more to the northwestward and reaching the China coast north of Amoy about the 25th. The American S. S. *Nanking* experienced very heavy weather in this storm but was not near enough to the center to record an extremely low pressure, the lowest reading reported being 29.30 on the 25th.

## INDIAN OCEAN.

The British S. S. *Warrior* reports that on August 12th, when nearing Natal, South Africa, a full gale from a westerly direction was encountered, followed, after reaching port, by an unusually high barometer, reading 30.74 inches.

## NORTH AMERICA.

Apparently there were no distinctive features in the weather of the current month. The temperature was above the normal for the season in the western plateau region of the United States as in the previous month;

elsewhere it was close to normal. Precipitation in the United States was generally below the seasonal average, except along the immediate Atlantic coast, where heavy local downpours occurred. (See pp. 565-566 above.)

## NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN.

By F. A. YOUNG.

During August, 1919, there were, apparently, comparatively few cyclonic disturbances of marked intensity or extent over the North Atlantic Ocean, although not enough vessel reports were received in time to determine the conditions accurately over the northern steamer lanes, especially during the latter part of the month.

Judging from the observations received from land stations on the American and European coasts, as well as the Azores and Bermudas, it is evident that the mean pressure for the month differed but little from the normal, the departures ranging from +0.04 to -0.06, inches, approximately.

On August 2 there was a well-developed low off the New England coast; it moved rapidly northward, and by the morning of the 3d, was central near Cape Ray, Newfoundland, where the barometric reading was 29.40 inches. No heavy winds were reported on either of these dates, and on the 3d fog was prevalent on the Banks of Newfoundland. On the 9th there was an area of low pressure that occupied about the same territory, and of even less intensity than that of the 3d. From the 10th to the 13th the atmospheric circulation was comparatively sluggish, with slight gradients, the pressure being uniformly high north of the 40th parallel, and somewhat below the normal at the Azores and in the southern division of the ocean.

On the 14th (see Chart IX) a point about 200 miles east of the Virginia Capes was the center of a violent disturbance, although the storm area was of limited extent. Three vessels near the center experienced gales of from 40 to 65 miles an hour, and the observer on the American S. S. *Munro* states in the storm log: "Gales began on the 13th, wind ESE. Lowest barometer 29.48 inches at 2 a. m. on the 14th, latitude 38°, longitude 74°. End of gale on the 14th, wind WNW. Highest force 65 miles per hour; shifts of wind near time of lowest barometer, backing from ESE. to NE." On the 15th there was a low of slight intensity central near Halifax, Nova Scotia; this moved rapidly eastward, and on the 17th the center was near latitude 50°, longitude 25°; light to moderate winds prevailed as a rule, although on the 17th one vessel in the easterly quadrant reported a moderate southerly gale. On the 18th the Danish S. S. *United States*, while near latitude 56°, longitude 22°, encountered a westerly gale of 50 miles an hour, accompanied by rain. The storm log is as follows: "Gale began on the 17th, wind WNW. Lowest barometer 28.56 inches at 5 p. m. on the 17th at latitude 58° 1', longitude 16° 53'. Highest force of wind 90 miles per hour." Times of end of gale and shifts of wind not given. Unfortunately there